

Good morning, Clare Eberle on behalf of the Office of Councilmember Huizar.

Our office supports the Little Tokyo community in opposition to the offsite sales of alcohol in conjunction with the proposed convenience store.

We are concerned that the proposed project's operations will adversely impact the welfare of the surrounding area, which faces significant public safety and security challenges. The community has worked extensively on visioning and planning for the neighborhood, and locally owned and community-based small businesses are core to the fabric of the Little Tokyo community and embedded in the goals of the Community Plan. We join the neighborhood groups in wanting to support more meaningful amenities. Notably, the other offsite sales locations in the neighborhood are full service grocery stores.

This area is also identified by the State ABC as having an undue concentration of offsite premises, which requires the City Council to make the affirmative finding of a project's public convenience and necessity. Without the community's express support of the location, and without additional value added by the project as an amenity, the Council would not be likely to support this finding.

7-Eleven has a few other locations in Downtown, and all have been widely noted by the community as highly problematic, due to reasons including poor maintenance, loitering and illegal activity. We do not have confidence that the proposed operation would be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.